

**ROCKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
ROCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2009, 6:30 PM  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

The School Committee met on Monday, January 26, 2009, at 6:30 PM in the High School Library. Committee members present were: Mr. Norris, Mrs. Pezzella, Mr. Mills, Mr. Mullen, and Mrs. Werkheiser. Also present were Superintendent Retchless, Assistant Superintendent Scarpelli, and Mrs. Cusick.

Representing the press were citizens broadcasting for WRPS/TV.

Mr. Sangster, High School Principal, and Mrs. Cann, Guidance Director, members of the Esten, Jefferson, Memorial Park, and Middle School PACs, Mr. Chiocca, Town Administrator, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Chaffee, Rockland Selectmen, were present in the audience.

Mr. Norris introduced Student Representative James Sheehan.

On motion of Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the minutes of the meeting of January 12, 2009 were accepted.

A request from the Rockland Girls Softball League to distribute flyers to elementary and middle school students was approved on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

The minutes of the South Shore Regional School District Committee meeting for November 19, 2008 were noted.

On eight separate motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the following Financial Reports for November and December were accepted:

- 1) School Department
- 2) High School Student Activities
- 3) Middle School Student Activities
- 4) Cafeteria

On thirty-four separate motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the following November/December Monthly Reports were accepted:

- |                                  |                            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) Art                           | Ms. Gibson                 |
| 2) Athletic                      | Mr. Graziano               |
| 3) Computer Technology           | Mr. Wells                  |
| 4) Day Care                      | Mrs. Veiga                 |
| 5) Deans                         | Mrs. Schipper/Mr. Damon    |
| 6) English                       | Ms. McDonough              |
| 7) Family Consumer Sci./Tech Ed. | Mr. Graziano               |
| 8) Foreign Language              | Ms. Buckley                |
| 9) Library/IMC                   | Mrs. Linehan               |
| 10) Math                         | Mrs. Bailey                |
| 11) Music                        | Mr. Harden                 |
| 12) Radio/TV Station             | Mr. Cable-Murphy           |
| 13) Science                      | Mr. Casagrande             |
| 14) Social Studies               | Mr. Grimmett               |
| 15) Special Education (9-12)     | Mrs. McGonnigal            |
| 16) Title I                      | Title I Parent Coordinator |
| 17) Middle School                | Ms. Bohn                   |

Mr. Norris introduced Mr. Chiocca, Town Administrator, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Chaffee, members of the Board of Selectmen and announced that the speakers would give an overview of the Town's budget situation and that members of the School Committee could ask questions followed by members of the audience. The following subjects were covered: high school accreditation, real estate property values, Middle School Building project, school program reductions, school budget comparisons for past years, override options, and parent involvement. Student Representative Sheehan gave his views about what the consequences might be if the override fails.

Mrs. Werkheiser updated the Committee on the progress of the School Building Committee noting that the Feasibility Study Contract had been received from the MSBA and would be approved after review by the Town Counsel. Also that there are provisions for school building projects in President Obama's stimulus plan. The project will begin in February including the cost figures, plans, and architect.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was voted to approve the proposed changes to the 2009 RHS Program of Studies. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Werkheiser, unanimous.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was voted to approve the proposed Out-of-District Student Policy. Motion to amend the motion to change the words Rockland Public Schools to elementary schools was made by Mrs. Werkheiser, seconded by Mr. Mills, unanimous. It was voted to approve the proposal as amended, motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

Mr. Sangster gave an overview of the present status of the high school accreditation. A report is scheduled to be submitted in August updating the progress of the science labs and Community Resources for Learning.

On the motion by Mr. Norris, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to appoint Mrs. Werkheiser to the Qualitative Sub-Committee of the Wellness Committee to review the Food Service Bid proposals.

On the motion by Mr. Norris, seconded by Mr. Mills, unanimous, it was voted to appoint Mr. Mullen to the Cost/Price Sub-Committee of the Wellness Committee to review the Food Service Bid proposals.

On the motion by Mrs. Pezzella, seconded by Mr. Mills, unanimous, it was voted to approve Saturday, June 6, 2009, as the date for the 2009 graduation.

Superintendent Retchless noted a cut in local aid of \$283,000 for the town. Proposals for school department cuts will be proposed at the next meeting.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, it was voted to approve a donation of \$500 to the Rockland High School Athletic Fund and to send a thank you letter.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to approve a donation of film cameras from Mary Mahoney and two video cameras and equipment from Noel Constantine and to send thank you letters.

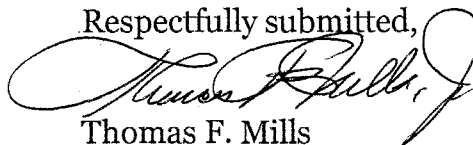
Superintendent Retchless reviewed personnel activity for November/December 2008 and January 2009 highlighting the appointment of Mr. Wells as the Technology Coordinator.

Mrs. Werkheiser and members of the Committee expressed their sympathy to the family of Matthew Pollini, a former Rockland student, who was killed in Iraq.

Members of the Committee thanked the guest speakers and parents in the audience for their participation.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Pezzella, unanimous, the meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas F. Mills  
Secretary

ROCKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
ROCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

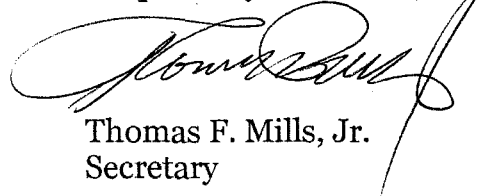
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING,  
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2008, 6:00 PM  
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

The School Committee met on Monday, January 26, 2009, at 6:00 PM at the Superintendent's Office. Committee members present were: Mr. Norris, Mrs. Pezzella, Mr. Mills, Mrs. Werkheiser, and Mr. Mullen. Also present were Superintendent Retchless, Assistant Superintendent Scarpelli, and Mrs. Cusick.

There was a general discussion regarding the proposed cuts to the FY2009 Budget.

On motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas F. Mills, Jr.', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Thomas F. Mills, Jr.  
Secretary